

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-21 (cancelled)

22. (currently amended): A method for dispersing a control agent ~~with~~ within a target area, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a projectile comprising one each of slidably engageable body and cap members made of a destructively deformable material; the body and cap members each further comprising an elongated, substantially cylindrical sidewall section having one closed, convex end and one open end; the open end of the body member being inserted inwardly of and into frictional engagement with the sidewall section of the cap member; the projectile containing a control agent selected from the group consisting of pesticides, herbicides and fungicides in at least one of a liquid, gel or powder form;

providing a projectile launching device comprising a pressurized gas source communicating with a tubular barrel;

selectively loading the projectile into the projectile launching device with the closed end of the cap member forwardly facing;

aiming the projectile launching device toward the target area; and

actuating the pressurized gas source to launch the projectile toward the target area.

23. (original): The method of claim 22 wherein the projectile is propelled toward the target area by a burst of compressed gas that is applied to the projectile within the projectile launching device.

24. (original): The method of claim 23 wherein the compressed gas is selected from the group consisting of air, nitrogen, carbon dioxide and mixtures thereof.

25. (original): The method of claim 22 wherein the projectile further comprises at least one of a filler material and a diluent.

26. (original): The method of claim 22 wherein the projectile comprises a filler material selected from the group consisting of diatomaceous earth, fumed silica, cornstarch and mixtures thereof.

27. (original): The method of claim 22 wherein the control agent is a pesticide selected from the group consisting of pyrethrin, piperonyl butoxide, permethrin, chlorpyrifos, propoxur, bacillus thuringiensis, hydromethylnon and fipronil.

28. (original): The method of claim 22 wherein the control agent is a herbicide selected from the group consisting of bromacil, dicamba and glyphosate.

29. (original): The method of claim 22 wherein the control agent is a fungicide selected from the group consisting of benomyl, cyproconazole and imazalil.

30. (original): The method of claim 22 wherein the projectile comprises at least one pesticide and at least one pest attractant.

31. (original): The method of claim 30 wherein the pest attractant is a feeding attractant.

32. (original): The method of claim 30 wherein the pest attractant is a pheromone.

33. (original): The method claim 22 wherein the projectile is launched at a velocity ranging from about 600 to about 1000 feet per second.

34. (original): The method of claim 33 wherein the projectile is launched at a velocity of about 600 feet per second.

35. (original): The method of claim 22 wherein the projectile weighs from about 0.5 to about 1.0 grams.

36. (original): The method of claim 22 wherein the projectile has a length-to-diameter ratio ranging between about 1.58 and about 1.94.

37. (original): The method of claim 22 wherein the body and cap members are made of gelatin having a moisture content ranging between about 5 and 20 weight percent.

38. (original): The method of claim 37 wherein the body and cap members are made of gelatin having a moisture content ranging between about 5 and 15 weight percent.

39. (original): The method of claim 22, comprising the step of positioning the projectile launching device about 15 feet from the center of the target area prior to launching the projectile.

40. (original): A method for delivering a control agent to a target, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a projectile comprising one each of slidably engageable body and cap members made of a destructively deformable material; the body and cap members each further comprising an elongated, substantially cylindrical sidewall section having one closed, convex end and one open end; the open end of the body member being inserted inwardly of and into frictional engagement with the sidewall section of the cap member; the projectile containing a control agent selected from the group consisting of pesticides, herbicides and fungicides in at least one of a liquid, gel or powder form;

providing a projectile launching device comprising a pressurized gas source communicating with a tubular barrel;

selectively loading the projectile into the projectile launching device with the closed end of the body member forwardly facing;

aiming the projectile launching device toward the target; and

actuating the pressurized gas source to launch the projectile toward the target.

41. (original): The method of claim 40 wherein the projectile is propelled toward the target area by a burst of compressed gas that is applied to the projectile within the projectile launching device.

42. (original): The method of claim 41 wherein the compressed gas is selected from the group consisting of air, nitrogen, carbon dioxide and mixtures thereof.

43. (original): The method of claim 40 wherein the projectile further comprises at least one of a filler material and a diluent.

44. (original): The method of claim 40 wherein the projectile comprises a filler material selected from the group consisting of diatomaceous earth, fumed silica, cornstarch and mixtures thereof.

45. (original): The method of claim 40 wherein the control agent is a pesticide selected from the group consisting of pyrethrin, piperonyl butoxide, permethrin, chlorpyrifos, propoxur, bacillus thuringiensis, hydromethylnon and fipronil.

46. (original): The method of claim 40 wherein the control agent is a herbicide selected from the group consisting of bromacil, dicamba and glyphosate.

47. (original): The method of claim 40 wherein the control agent is a fungicide selected from the group consisting of benomyl, cyproconazole and imazalil.

48. (original): The method of claim 40 wherein the projectile comprises at least one pesticide and at least one pest attractant.

49. (original): The method of claim 48 wherein the pest attractant is a feeding attractant.

50. (original): The method of claim 48 wherein the pest attractant is a pheromone.

51. (original): The method claim 40 wherein the projectile is launched at a velocity ranging from about 600 to about 1000 feet per second.

52. (original): The method of claim 51 wherein the projectile is launched at a velocity of about 600 feet per second.

53. (original): The method of claim 40 wherein the projectile weighs from about 0.5 to about 1.0 grams.

54. (original): The method of claim 40 wherein the projectile has a length-to-diameter ratio ranging between about 1.58 and about 1.94.

55. (original): The method of claim 40 wherein the body and cap members are made of gelatin having a moisture content ranging between about 5 and 20 weight percent.

56. (original): The method of claim 55 wherein the body and cap members are made of gelatin having a moisture content ranging between about 5 and 15 weight percent.

57. (original): The method of claim 40, comprising the step of positioning the projectile launching device from about 25 to about 30 feet from the target prior to launching the projectile.

58. (new): A method for selectively dispersing a control agent within a target area or delivering a control agent to a more distal target, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a projectile comprising one each of slidably engageable body and cap members made of a destructively deformable material; the body and cap members each further comprising an elongated, substantially cylindrical sidewall section having one closed, convex end and one open end; the open end of the body member being inserted inwardly of and into frictional engagement with the sidewall section of the cap member; the projectile containing a control agent selected from the group consisting of pesticides, herbicides and fungicides in at least one of a liquid, gel or powder form;

providing a projectile launching device comprising a pressurized gas source communicating with a tubular barrel;

selectively loading the projectile into the projectile launching device with the closed end of the cap member forwardly facing to disperse the control agent within a target area or loading the projectile into the projectile launching device with the closed end of the body member forwardly facing to deliver the control agent to a more distal target;

aiming the projectile launching device toward the selected target area or target; and

actuating the pressurized gas source to launch the projectile toward the selected target area or target.

59. (new): The method of claim 58 wherein the projectile is selectively loaded into the projectile launching device with the closed end of the cap member forwardly facing to disperse the control agent within a target area.

60. (new): The method of claim 59, comprising the step of positioning the projectile launching device about 15 feet from the center of the target area prior to launching the projectile.

61. (new): The method of claim 58 wherein the projectile is selectively loaded into the projectile launching device with the closed end of the body member forwardly facing to deliver the control agent to a more distal target.

62. (new): The method of claim 61, comprising the step of positioning the projectile launching device from about 25 to about 30 feet from the target prior to launching the projectile.